

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0053
(916) 319-2053
FAX (916) 319-2153

DISTRICT OFFICE
500 CENTER STREET
EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245
(310) 615-3515
FAX (310) 615-3520

assemblymember.lieu@assembly.ca.gov

Assembly California Legislature



TED W. LIEU
FIFTY-THIRD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
CHAIR, CALIFORNIA ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

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October 27, 2009

Blue Ribbon Task Force
Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
C/O California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Blue Ribbon Task Force:

As noted in my letter to you dated October 9, 2009, I fully support the Marine Life Protection Act and its goals of ecosystem protection. Implemented thoughtfully, I believe the Marine Life Protection Act will be a significant benefit to Southern California in the long term. It is my understating that your Task Force delayed a final recommendation on marine protected areas in the South Coast until November 10, 2009 to pursue additional scientific evaluation of the options before you. I commend you for that thoughtful approach.

My previous letter outlined the economic and recreational importance of maintaining open access to the Rocky Point area of Palos Verdes. For all of the reasons outlined in my earlier letter, I urge you to adopt the Proposal 2 marine protected area in Palos Verdes given the particular importance of this site to fishing interests and the economic benefits of keeping Rocky Point open.

I also understand that to be effective, the marine protected areas adopted in Southern California must be based on science and address conservation. I therefore support adoption of a compromise marine protected area shape (the Proposal 1 Point Dume State Marine Reserve) on the north side of Santa Monica Bay. By including an upwelling area and a portion of critical kelp forest nursery habitat, this proposed marine reserve will help replenish Santa Monica Bay itself. The Point Dume State Marine Reserve from Proposal 1 was designed with input from a wide range of interests and reflects a reasonable compromise – meeting scientific guidance but also leaving most of the adjacent reefs open to fishing. The Proposal 1 marine protected area shape at Point Dume also has the formal support of the City of Malibu.

I recognize that your Task Force faces a challenging task of trying to find the right balance between conserving our ocean resources and maintaining historic access to areas particularly important to fishing. In Los Angeles County I believe the right balance means selecting the Proposal 1 State Marine Reserve shape at Point Dume and the

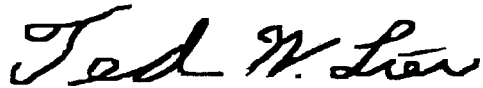
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OCT 29 2009



Proposal 2 State Marine Reserve favored by fishing interests at Palos Verdes. I urge your careful consideration of this option and I thank you for your service to the State of California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted W. Lieu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ted W. Lieu
Assemblymember, 53rd AD

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RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA